

Serial No. : 10/772,499
Filed : February 5, 2004

REMARKS

In the office action, the examiner rejected claims 1-2, 8, 10, 12, 16-17, 23, 25 and 27 under 103(a) as being unpatentable over Campbell (U.S. Patent No. 7,076,505) in view of Yokota (U.S. Application Publication No. 2002/0065605). The examiner rejected claims 9, 11, 24 and 26 under 103(a) as being unpatentable over Campbell (U.S. Patent No. 7,076,505) and Yokota (U.S. Application Publication No. 2002/0065605) further in view of Hanon et al. (U.S. Application Publication No. 2003/0231208). The examiner indicated that Claims 4-7, 13-15, 19-22 and 28-30 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Accordingly, the applicant has amended the claims to more clearly differentiate the present invention from the technology disclosed by the cited references. In the previous office action, the examiner indicated that Claims 3 and 18 would be allowable over the prior art, thus the applicant has added the features of Claims 3 and 18 to Claims 1 and 16, respectively. Because of the changes in the current office action that Claims 1 and 16 having the limitations of Claims 3 and 18, respectively, are not allowable, the applicant has now removed the limitations of original Claim 3 from Claim 1 and the limitations of original Claim 18 from Claim 16. The applicant has added all of the limitations of Claim 4 to Claim 1, and the applicant has also added all of the limitations of Claim 19 to Claim 16. As noted above, the examiner indicates that

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Claim 4 and 19 would be allowable over the prior art. Accordingly, the applicant believes that Claims 1 and 16, as amended, are now patentable. To be consistent with Claims 1 and 16, the applicant has canceled Claims 4 and 19. The applicant has revived Claims 3 and 18 that have been canceled in the previous amendment.

Under the circumstances, the applicant believes that the present application is in condition for allowance, and the applicant respectfully requests that the present application be allowed and passed to issue.

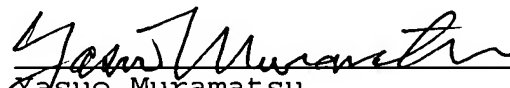
Respectfully submitted,

MURAMATSU & ASSOCIATES

Dated: _____

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By: _____



Yasuo Muramatsu
Registration No. 38,684
114 Pacifica, Suite 310
Irvine, CA 92618
(949) 753-1127

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